

ASSISTANT CLERK: Not at this time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you. The Chair recognizes the Speaker.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, members of the body, just like to make an announcement that there will be a switch in the agenda for this afternoon, in many ways based on a motion filed by a couple of members, and we'll be accommodating those interests here today, but I also want to spend just a little time talking about what we're about, if nothing else, just to lay out some things for the record for the rest of the session. We're going to be modifying the agenda today. Originally, I had suggested that LB 613 be special ordered this afternoon. I will explain as to why I think that's an important bill that does, in fact, deserve legislative attention this session. And I will be assuring that at some time or other it does receive legislative attention this session. But what we will be doing is following the agenda as we left it this morning. Part of the reason for that is that the beginning of last week when I began to look at the agenda and think about making special order plans it looked like the General File Agenda was not flowing at all. Since I made those plans, it's flowing considerably and LB 613 would be the third bill taken up after we complete LB 106. There's no doubt in my mind that we will, in fact, get to that bill. So it probably doesn't need special ordering in order to get to it. There had been a motion filed by Senator Chambers and Senator Bromm to override the Speaker's agenda and, rather than spend a couple of hours debating what we ought to be debating, I think maybe we ought to just go ahead and debate bills rather than do that. I do want to make it clear though that I do believe that precedent within the body and the rules, I would point to Rule 6, Section 3, subsection (c), that indicates that bills shall be listed and considered on General File in the order in which they shall be reported from the Standing Committees, except as modified by the Speaker. And I believe that provision gives the Speaker the ability to special order legislation when he or she may deem it necessary that the Legislature consider most important legislation. I believe that this bill, LB 613, fits the criteria for a special order because it's one of the very few bills that we have before us this year that has the potential of impacting on property taxes that will be collected by local subdivisions. I also believe that LB 371, although as an individual I have some personal problems with what's contained within that, is another such bill. I believe that the